

10 N.v. 1955

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1. The Soviets are apparently changing their approach to the Tehran journalists. The tactic now seems to be to approach them individually and not to gather them in groups as was done on 15 September at the Soviet summer Embassy. Only a few days ago, TASS representative Sergei Tagashov accosted a Kayhan staff member on the street and complained bitterly about the "dirty articles" which were appearing in Kayhan. Tagashov suddenly invited the journalist to be his guest at a forthcoming Soviet reception. The journalist indicated to Tagashov that he could hardly be expected to accept the invitation after having been criticized so severely. Tagashov apologized, saying he was simply trying to enlighten him. Although the journalist refused the invitation, he expects that he will be asked again in the near future.
2. The Czech and Rumanian Legations are also becoming active in the press field; inviting journalists to attend Legation receptions and parties and offering trips to their respective countries. The Czechs have made it known that they plan to invite one representative from Post-3-Tehran to visit Czechoslovakia but have not quite decided who it will be.

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1. Comment. See comment for previous information on the Soviet Party and its efforts to influence the Iranian press. On 21 September, comment gave the following additional names of journalists attending the 15 September Soviet party: Dr. Baqer Shariyat, journalist for publication Tehran Economist; Emad Asar, journalist for publication Ashofteh; Samsamnia (fnu), publication Karzar; and Movahed (fnu) journalist for publication Etelast.